

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

In addition, it is obvious that these are the actions of an Administration which is void of creative thinking or solutions. The need to blame Kerry for a very personal decision is obscene and the FCC's choice, if nothing is done, to support actions of this sort make apparent the real work that lies ahead of us. As a previously undecided voter, not only will I now vote for Kerry (whose decency, hard work and courage become accentuated by these actions), but I have also become radicalized by FCC's support of Sinclair. This is a crucial moment. The people are watching. Does the FCC serve an important function as it once did, or is it no match for the corrupt ways of the likes of Sinclair. It's up to you.